

AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please amend page 7, lines 26-36, as follows:

The first column is generally operated at bottom temperatures of from 150 to 300°C, preferably from 170 to 250°C, more preferably from 170 to 200°C, and ~~bottom~~ top temperatures of from 5 to 100°C, preferably from 10 to 90°C, more preferably from 15 to 65°C. The pressure in the first column is customarily from 10 to 1000 mbar, preferably from 30 to 500 mbar, more preferably from 35 to 200 mbar.

The second column is generally operated at bottom temperatures of from 140 to 300°C, preferably from 150 to 250°C, more preferably from 160 to 200°C, and ~~bottom~~ top temperatures of from 100 to 250°C, preferably from 130 to 200°C, more preferably from 140 to 170°C. The pressure in the second column is customarily from 10 to 1000 mbar, preferably from 30 to 300 mbar, more preferably from 35 to 120 mbar.

Application No.: 10/524084

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Please amend page 8, lines 34-38, as follows:

The three columns are generally operated at bottom temperatures of from 140 to 250°C, preferably from 170 to 225°C, more preferably from 170 to 200°C, and ~~bottom~~ top temperatures of from 40 to 180°C, preferably from 70 to 170°C, more preferably from 70 to 150°C. The pressure in the columns is customarily from 30 to 1500 mbar, preferably from 100 to 500 mbar, more preferably from 110 to 200 mbar.